## **IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

## **Iowa DNR News**

Conservation and Recreation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jan. 30. 2018

- DNR Park Ranger honored by Iowa OHV Association
- Walleye season closes Feb. 14 on Iowa Great Lakes

## DNR Park Ranger honored by Iowa OHV Association

DNR Park Ranger Christopher (C.J.) Hughes was given a Special Recognition Award by the lowa Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Association for his education efforts. He received the award at the association's annual meeting in Williamsburg on Jan. 21.

According to a statement by OHV Association President Justin Rath, "The Iowa OHV Association recognizes Christopher Hughes for his efforts to improve the OHV park experience. C.J. has been a great asset to the OHV program as he continues to educate and inform riders on what to expect inside the park, what rules to follow, and what groups maintain these parks."

According to the association, Hughes also has worked with other law enforcement officers across the state to enforce rules consistently and in a manner that educates while enforcing, which is a benefit to the sport.

"We look forward to building on the work he has begun and are highly appreciative of his efforts," said Rath.

Hughes provides law enforcement and public education at the Bluff Creek OHV Park in Mahaska County and the Rathbun OHV Park in Appanoose County. He also helps oversee law enforcement activities at Honey Creek Resort State Park and Honey Creek State Park on Rathbun Lake. He has been with the lowa DNR for one year, working for Monroe County Conservation Board for many years prior to coming to the state park system.

DNR Contact: Rhonda Fowler, DNR OHV Program Coordinator, 515-725-8490.

## Walleye season closes Feb. 14 on Iowa Great Lakes

SPIRIT LAKE – The walleye fishing season on Spirit, East and West Okoboji lakes is open through Feb. 14, 2018. It will be closed after that date and reopens again on May 5, 2018. These are the only lowa lakes that have a closed season for walleye.

For more information on fishing regulations, go to <a href="www.iowadnr.gov/fishing">www.iowadnr.gov/fishing</a>.